

Application Serial No.: 09/287,631  
Attorney Docket No.: 3063.0396-02

33. (Amended) A method of making a surface covering having multiple layers including a wear layer, and an embossed design, comprising:  
chemically embossing at least a portion of a first layer, and  
mechanically embossing at least a portion of a second layer, wherein the first layer is disposed below the second layer and a chemically embossed portion of the first layer has a depth greater than any embossed portion of the second layer,  
said method further comprising applying said wear layer before chemically embossing.

Please add the following new claims 39-46:

39. A method of making a floor covering, comprising:
- providing a surface covering comprising a backing layer; a foamable layer; and a design layer containing at least one retarder composition in at least a portion thereof and in contact with said foamable layer;
  - providing a wear layer and curing said wear layer, thereby expanding said foamable layer to form a foam layer and chemically embossing that portion of said foam layer in contact with said retarder composition; and
  - mechanically embossing a surface texture onto said wear layer, wherein a chemically embossed portion of said foam layer has an emboss depth greater than the emboss depth of any portion of said mechanically embossed portion.

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10 ~~11~~  
40. The method of claim ~~39~~ 109, further comprising the step of softening said wear layer by subjecting it to a temperature sufficient to soften it prior to said mechanical embossing step.

11 ~~12~~  
41. The method of claim ~~40~~ 109, further comprising the steps of curing and subsequently cooling said wear layer to reduce its temperature to approximately ambient temperature prior to said softening step.

12 ~~13~~  
42. The method of claim ~~40~~ 109, wherein said softening step includes subjecting said wear layer to a sufficient softening temperature of about 195°C to 215°C.

13 ~~14~~  
43. The method of claim ~~39~~ 109, wherein the mechanical embossing achieves an emboss depth of about 1 to about 12 mils.

14 ~~15~~  
44. The method of claim ~~39~~ 109, wherein the total embossing depth of the wear layer and foam layer combined is about 3 to about 8 mils.

15 ~~16~~  
45. The method of claim ~~39~~ 109, wherein the foam layer comprises foam cells beneath the mechanically embossed portion of the wear layer which are not crushed or collapsed.